

1. (Previously presented) A valve assembly for use with a dispensing apparatus, the valve assembly comprising:

a valve;

a nozzle assembly; and

a collar which in use engages with a container of the dispensing apparatus with which the valve assembly is used and surrounds the nozzle assembly, the collar including variable spacer means adapted to contact the nozzle assembly when the nozzle assembly is displaced in a lateral direction and arranged to limit lateral travel of the nozzle assembly by a variable amount according to the direction in which the nozzle assembly is displaced.

2. (Previously presented) A valve assembly according to claim 1 wherein the valve is a tilt valve including a valve stem.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Withdrawn) A valve assembly according to claim 1 further including a lever, the lever being integral with the nozzle assembly.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) A valve assembly according to claim 1 wherein the collar is adapted to press fit on a rolled flange of a standard pressurised container.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Withdrawn) A valve assembly according to claim 1 wherein the nozzle serves as a lever.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) A valve assembly according to claim 1 wherein the variable spacer means comprise a plurality of recessed portions of the collar of different depths, each recessed portion being adapted to contact the nozzle assembly when the nozzle assembly is displaced towards said recessed portion.

19. (Previously presented) A valve assembly according to claim 1 wherein the variable spacer means comprises a cam surface of the collar adapted to contact the nozzle assembly when the nozzle assembly is displaced in a lateral direction and provide a limit of lateral travel, the limit of lateral travel varying with the direction in which the nozzle assembly is displaced.

20 - 30 (Cancelled)